

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOAL NO. 1: ACHIEVE COMPATIBLE LAND AND WATER USE

OBJECTIVE 1: Effective Planning

INITIATIVES: 1. Update municipal, county and regional master plans to include elements such as: a) inventory and/or preservation of open space areas, b) protection of floodplain and wetland areas, c) prevention of further degradation of streams and other water bodies, and d) consistency with the objectives of the State Development and Redevelopment Plan and sound environmental practices.
2. Promote a more regional comprehensive approach to planning.

OBJECTIVE 2: Compatible Zoning

INITIATIVE: Identify compatible land uses and zoning districts that are consistent with open space preservation. These designated uses and districts should not pose any detrimental harm or impact to open space areas or any adjacent water bodies.

OBJECTIVE 3: Protected Riparian Buffers

INITIATIVE: Establish riparian buffers of 50-foot or greater depending upon the class of waterbody or wetland area. NJDEP currently has established a minimum of a 50-foot buffer delineation on wetland areas in the State.

OBJECTIVE 4: Adequate Open Space

INITIATIVES: 1. Develop appropriate maps of the watershed defining existing open space areas. The maps, along with the adopted Criteria for Open Space Preservation, will serve as a tool for prioritizing acquisition of open space for preservation purposes.
2. Achieve a 10-20% increase of open space area over a period of 5 years. Acquisition of environmentally sensitive areas should be emphasized.

OBJECTIVE 5: Sufficient Groundwater Recharge & Adequate Public Water Supply

INITIATIVES: 1. Strongly encourage municipalities to provide greater buffer areas along with site plans that emphasize cluster developments. 2. Encourage future developments to provide on-site stormwater retention and recharge systems.
3. Encourage developers to demonstrate that adequate water supplies can be provided to residents of a new development without unduly burdening the quality and quantity of the existing water supply system.

OBJECTIVE 6: Improved Habitat Preservation

INITIATIVE: Strongly encourage local, county and state governments to actively acquire large open space areas (i.e., Camp Grey in Mahwah) or parcels contiguous to already protected, large, open spaces. These types of lands tend to be best suited for the protection of wildlife habitat.

GOAL NO. 2: DEVELOP AN INFORMED AND INVOLVED PUBLIC

OBJECTIVE 1: Effective Educational Programs

INITIATIVES: 1. Newsletter/Website
2. Festivals & Activities
3. Boundary Signs
4. Grade School, High School & College Activities

OBJECTIVE 2: Comprehensive Outreach Programs

INITIATIVES: 1. Watershed Cleanups
2. Outreach To Specific Constituencies

- Government Officials
- Land Users
- Dog Owners
- Golf Courses
- Critical Businesses

OBJECTIVE 3: Media Interest and Cooperation

INITIATIVE: Press Releases/Information Packets

GOAL NO. 3: ACHIEVE CLEAN AND PLENTIFUL WATER WITH A HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM

OBJECTIVE 1: Organize and Promote Increased Water Quality Monitoring

- INITIATIVES:**
1. Review available data on the use of pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, fertilizers and other chemicals in our watershed.
 2. Compile a list of all water quality monitoring occurring in the watershed, including data from RATS and BATS, United Water NJ, and the Harbor Estuary Program. Identify data gaps for future monitoring.
 3. Encourage community-based water quality monitoring projects with funding and technical assistance.

OBJECTIVE 2: Erosion Control

- INITIATIVES:**
1. Conduct a literature review of current erosion control methods.
 2. Host a seminar on stormwater control management plans.
 3. Promote stream bank stabilization by identifying moderate to severe erosion problems throughout the watershed, coordinating with community groups on erosion control projects, and reviewing local ordinances to promote protection of riparian corridors.

OBJECTIVE 3: Control Nonpoint Source Pollution

- INITIATIVES:**
1. Conduct a nationwide survey of nonpoint source pollution data.
 2. Identify nonpoint source pollution problem areas in the watershed.
 3. Perform a literature review on watershed management BMPs to support education and outreach projects, including alternative lawn care practices, goose control practices, and nonpoint source pollution control devices.
 4. Collect, review, revise and distribute municipal ordinances related to nonpoint source pollution controls.
 5. Conduct an analysis of new construction techniques to minimize nonpoint source pollution. Develop a road show to present to municipal officials within the watershed, similar to the NEMO project (<http://nemo.uconn.edu>.)
 6. Initiate an “Adopt a Stream” program.

OBJECTIVE 4: Control Point Source Discharges

- INITIATIVES:**
1. Review the existing inventory of permitted discharges in the watershed.
 2. Establish a citizens’ panel to review discharge monitoring report violations, review new point source permit applications, and promote community watch programs to spot illegal dumping.

OBJECTIVE 5: Eliminate Combined Sewer Overflows

- INITIATIVES:**
1. Identify and map combined sewer outfalls, and promote increased monitoring around outfalls.
 2. Review municipal ordinances that control storm water discharges to sanitary sewers.
 3. Conduct a nationwide survey regarding monitoring, controlling and remediation of CSOs.

OBJECTIVE 6: Remove Polluting Sediments from Waterbodies

- INITIATIVES:**
1. Develop a program for the monitoring of benthic layers in the watershed.
 2. Conduct a literature review of technical papers and reports on Hackensack River studies, and obtain information on the Passaic River Restoration Initiative, state data supporting the Blue Claw Crab ban and a copy of the NJ Meadowlands Commission's study.

OBJECTIVE 7: Promote Water Use Conservation

- INITIATIVES:**
1. Determine the breakdown of water usage by residential, commercial and industrial categories.
 2. Promote smart growth.
 3. Promote industrial wastewater recycling and the use of gray water and stormwater runoff for landscaping purposes.
 4. Develop a summary fact sheet on conservation methods, and increase public awareness of the NJ Water Budget programs.

GOAL NO. 4: OBTAIN SOCIOECONOMIC VITALITY AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

OBJECTIVE 1: Provide Accessibility To Rivers and Streams

- INITIATIVES:**
1. Identify and map current and potential areas for access, and denote if protected or threatened.
 2. Weigh issue of ecological sensitivity.
 3. Communicate to the public; create a guide.
 4. Coordinate with the NJDEP Land Use Program and the Hudson River Conservancy.
 5. Work with NJ Transit to publicize waterfront access areas via light rail in their brochures; identify stops for access.

OBJECTIVE 2: Develop Viable Industry and Commerce To Provide Employment Opportunities

OBJECTIVE 3: Promote Cultural Activities

OBJECTIVE 4: Provide And Support Educational Facilities

OBJECTIVE 5: Develop And Maintain Varied Recreational Facilities